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September 5, 1979

Deputy Director for Science &
Technology
Room 6L60, Headquarters

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Response to Bruce Clarke regarding FBIS
staffing to cover the Soviet vernacular media
for your signature.

Director, Foreign Broadcast
Information Service

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment

FROM: Leslie C. Dirks
Deputy Director for Science and Technology

SUBJECT: Your Memo of 24 August 1979 on Access to Soviet Vernacular Publications -- WFAC No. 4274179 ☐

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1. Your concern over FBIS's personnel needs to process Soviet vernacular languages is appreciated. FBIS has been able to hire linguists who can sample Georgian, Uzbek, Lithuanian and Tadzik sources, either as staffers or on contract. It is continuing to recruit for such linguists in this country and abroad, chiefly in London and at its new bureau in Bahrain. ☐

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2. If positions become a problem, we will permit FBIS to hire against DD/S&T headroom temporarily, until the Soviet Nationalities Working Group provides a more accurate assessment of the ultimate workload involved and the permanent staffing picture can be clarified. ☐

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3. Extra staffing demands will, however, cause problems for FBIS and for the DDS&T. FBIS is currently covering position needs for the Bahrain bureau, for example, with slots borrowed internally from elsewhere. Through FY 1981 it has no extra positions to accommodate new permanent requirements for Soviet vernaculars. When the latter requirement becomes clarified, we will need WFAC and Comptroller support to obtain whatever positions are involved. ☐

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LESLIE C. DIRKS

Distribution:

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